



7th Grade Science Syllabus Kearns-Saint Ann Catholic School

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Instructor: Mr. VanWagoner

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Class Website: www.ksascience.weebly.com

Course description: In this course students will learn about the nature of science. We will explore and classify life, cells, cell processes, cell reproduction and adaptation. Students will learn to study these areas by utilizing the scientific methods, vocabulary, classroom discussions and online resources. Students will also have many hands-on experiences to aid in the learning experience such as labs, experiments and online resources.

Materials needed:

1. Pencils (mechanical preferred)
2. Pens (blue, black and red)
3. Binder w/college rule paper
4. HiLiters

Subject matter to be covered:

1. What is Science?
2. Living Things
3. Where does Life come from
4. How are living things classified
5. Cell Structure
6. Viewing cells
7. Viruses
8. Chemistry of life
9. Moving Cellular materials
10. Energy of life
11. Cell division and meiosis
12. DNA

13. Genetics

14. Ideas about evolution

Expectations: Students will come prepared and be on time for class every day. They will work cooperatively and respectfully. Students will follow teacher expectations in classroom/lab and expectations in safety agreement. School policy will be followed regarding passes. Remember that passes are a privilege not a right. Violations of these rules will result in consequences.

Consequences will be one of the following dependent upon the violation:

- Φ Verbal warning
- Φ Written note signed by student and parent(s)
- Φ Phone call home
- Φ Parent/Teacher/Student Conference
- Φ Detention with teacher or in-house
- Φ Office Referral

Grading:

50% of grade is tests/quizzes/projects

30% of grade is daily work/homework

15% of grade is lab write-ups

5% of grade is class participation

Late Work: Must be turned in within one week of the end of the unit.

Maximum of 70% credit on the late assignment can be earned.

Homework: Answer the questions in complete sentences when appropriate. Assignments are to be completed neatly as possible. If I cannot easily decipher the answers, you will be asked to redo the assignment in order to receive credit. The due date for each assignment will be announced in class.

Upon returning to school following an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to request make-up work. The student is allotted two extra days per one day absent to complete work and turn it in. Labs must be made up on the designated "lab make-up day". If the lab is not made up at this time, the student will receive a zero for the designated lab.

Knew/New/Q: Students will take notes in class utilizing the "Knew/New/Q" method. This is basically a sheet of paper divided into 3 columns. The 1st column is for information the student knows, the 2nd column is for new information the student has learned and the final column is an area where students can write down questions they may have regarding the subject matter.

Science Fair: All students are required to participate in the school science fair. Each student will be given instructions and handouts during science class for the various steps of the project. Most of the work will be completed at home.

Parents should encourage and monitor his or her child's progress on the way. Parent support is key to a successful project, but please do not allow the involvement to extend any further than that. This assures equity and promotes student learning. It is important that your child wrestles with problems and try to solve them. Guide your child whenever and wherever you can, but let the final project reflect your child's individual effort and design.

Science Laboratory Safety Rules

1. Goggles and aprons must be worn for labs as needed.
2. No eating, drinking, or chewing in the lab area.
3. No horseplay of any kind during a lab.
4. You will be advised on methods of disposal of chemicals used in the lab exercises.
5. Should you get chemicals in your eyes immediately notify your teacher and flood your eyes with water using the eyewash station.
6. If you spill chemicals on your skin, rinse the area immediately with water from the nearest sink.
7. Unplug all electrical equipment and turn off the water when not in use.
8. Clean up your assigned lab work area. Empty the sink of any debris. Have your teacher sign off your lab sheet before you leave the lab area.
9. Report accidents immediately to your teacher.
10. Follow your teacher's directions during an emergency situation.

I have read the attached course syllabus and Science lab safety rules. I have been present when they were discussed in class or I have discussed them directly with my science teacher.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

I have read and discussed the course syllabus including the Science lab safety rules with my student.

Guardian Signature: _____ **date:** _____

These two signatures are worth 10 points and are due August 29th